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China Says Expelled Reporter Published 'Internal Secrets'

Chinese Official Is Also Detained in Case

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BEIJING, May 12—A Chinese police official today said a Japanese journalist was expelled from China because he had repeatedly stolen and published the country's "internal secrets" and that a Chinese government official had been detained for providing the journalist with internal secrets "on a number of occasions."

In China's first public comment on the reasons behind the expulsion of Kyodo news agency reporter Shuitsu Henmi, an unnamed police official quoted by the official New China News Agency accused Henmi of paying about \$135 a month to the Chinese official for secrets.

Henmi, 42, left China yesterday for Tokyo after denying that he had engaged in anything other than normal journalistic activities. The reporter could not be reached immediately for comment on the accusations against him today.

According to the Chinese news agency, the government official who has been detained by police is Tang Dadi. The account did not state what agency Tang Dadi worked for.

"Henmi has time and again stolen China's internal secrets and published them," the police official was quoted as saying. "And this behavior is not permitted in any country." The police official was identified in the news dispatch as a member of

the Beijing Municipal Bureau of State Security, the organization charged with counterespionage and surveillance of foreigners.

According to the police official, Henmi filed a story from Beijing Jan. 25 that included detailed excerpts of a confidential Communist Party Central Committee document that described the party's assessment of "mistakes" made by ousted party chief Hu Yaobang. The police official said the source for the story was Tang Dadi.

The Chinese have a broad definition of what is secret.

"When Tang had urgent classified information for Henmi, he could make an appointment with Henmi through a third person at any time," the police official was quoted as saying.

Earlier today, Japan's ambassador to China, Yosuke Nakae, expressed "great regret" over the Chinese action against Henmi and said that he believed the reporter was telling the truth when he said he did no wrong.

Henmi was the third foreign correspondent to be expelled from China within the past 10 months. Last July, the State Security Ministry expelled a New York Times reporter after accusing him of entering a restricted military zone. In January, the ministry expelled a correspondent for the French news agency, Agence France-Presse, after accusing him of obtaining secret information from a Chinese student.